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NEWS RELEASE



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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HOLD FOR RELEASE 7 P.M. SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

SAN DIEGO, Calif.--The chancellor of the University of San Diego hailed a new era for the university at the annual reception in his honor given by the alumni of the USD College for Men.

The Most Rev. Leo T. Maher, bishop of the Diocese of San Diego, told the alumni at Vacation Village Saturday, Jan. 24, that he looks forward to the emergence of a new and independent university when the diocese and the Religious of the Sacred Heart relinquish control.

Among the distinguished guests present to honor the chancellor was State Controller Houston I. Flournoy, representing Gov. Reagan.

Bishop Maher said, "This university is a pearl of great value for all the people of Southern California and beyond. It heads into the Seventies with the assurance of finding its rightful place in the forward spirit of national and private education.

"We are certainly on the road which will lead to more independence both financially and philosophically. A university, we pray, will emerge with all the assets of the dual relationship of the past and the added strength which comes from the present steps towards final unification."

The bishop added, "Now we look to the future when both the diocese and the religious will relinquish this control and wish God speed to

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the University of San Diego, marked by its oneness."

Bishop Maher as bishop of the Diocese of San Diego sits as chancellor of the University of San Diego. Until November the bishop was also president of the University of San Diego corporation. At the November meeting of the board of trustees of the College for Men and School of Law, the Rev. Msgr. John E. Baer, president of the College for Men, was elected president of the corporation.

The USD College for Women which is operated by the Religious of the Sacred Heart has merged many academic and business departments with the University of San Diego during the past two years. Students of the two colleges take classes in either college.

Referring to the university's development plans for the early part of the Seventies, Bishop Maher noted, "We must now start to hand over the burden to others--to you the alumni; to you our friends gathered here; and to the community at large, Catholic and non-Catholic alike."

The university announced in October a \$16.9 million plan for the next six years for improving academic programs, faculty salaries, and facilities.

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